

Joppa/Joppatowne Community Council

Meeting Number 137 (12-13)

December 2, 2013

Joppa/Joppatowne Community meetings are held the first Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend and participate. Meetings are held at the Harford County Sheriff's Office Southern Precinct, 1305 Pulaski Highway, Edgewood, MD 21040.

Meeting Number 137 was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Chairperson Paula Mullis, followed by a moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance. She welcomed community members, and local council members introduced themselves. Members present were Paula Mullis, Gloria Moon, Doris Carey, Vince Rabenau and Ron Sollod. Members absent were James B. Lyons III, Bob Frisch, Betty Byrne and Yvonne Baldwin. The chair acknowledged the presence of Captain Krass of the Sheriff's Office/Community Policing, Joe Peters of the Sheriff's Office, Fran Salbeck of the Joppa/Joppatowne Pool Committee, Patty Robinson of the Southern County Magazine, Councilman Dion Guthrie and Lydia Brennan, aide to Councilman Guthrie. Gloria Moon offered a motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting, and Ron Sollod seconded; the minutes were approved.

Sheriff's Office / Community Policing Report

Captain Krass and Joe Peters presented a crime analysis unit report explaining what has happened in the Sector 10, Post 11 area during the past month. Attendees were given handouts. Burglaries increased. Most burglaries are occurring during the day. It is uncertain if certain homes are being targeted. Neighbors are encouraged to keep a watch for unusual happenings in the community. Everyone was asked to remain vigilant and don't hesitate to call the Sheriff's Office.

Fran Salbeck – Save the Pool Update

Fran Salbeck stated that the pool committee members have been very busy. Committee members went to the County Executive's Office to deliver 3,000 signatures which were accepted by Ms. Mary Chance and Mr. Aaron Tomarchio. Both were very gracious to the group. Fran also mentioned that members spoke at a budget meeting. She feels the county is receptive to having a recreation center where the pool is now. People can still sign in on facebook to support saving the pool. Fran will keep the community posted.

County Council and Community Update from Councilman Dion Guthrie

Councilman Guthrie stated that in order to decide what can be done with the pool, the property must first be purchased. He also mentioned that \$15 million have been spent in Fallston on a recreation center; that amount should also be spent in the Joppa/Joppatowne area as well. He would also like to see a new fire station built on the Plecker's property. Two different companies are doing appraisals of the property. Appraisals are ongoing and cannot be rushed. Dion mentioned that there is a meeting to do a walk-through to clean up the area on Rumsey Island. On the island the curbs and gutters have been paved over with blacktop. The same thing has happened to the curbs and gutters at the High School. Public Works Director, Tim Whittie thinks there will be some extra money to fix the problem areas. Dion mentioned that Dave Cordish won the appeal to have meat back in the Amish Market. He also mentioned that Patty Robinson continues to do an outstanding job with the new Southern County Magazine.

As a part of Dion's update, a brief update on the Gunpowder trails project was given. There are 90 miles of continuous trails that will be connected for hiking as well as biking. Progress is still being made under route 40 bridges for trails. The community will continue to be updated on the project.

Ron Sollod of the Joppa-Magnolia Volunteer Fire Company shared information from the State Fire Marshall for the safety of everyone during the winter season. He said that we all are well into the heating season and there are many facts that we should know for our own safety. Ron talked about a new law requiring

homeowners to replace battery-operated smoke detectors more than 10 years old with detectors that have a 10-year sealed battery. He went on to give the following tips for safety:

- Keep matches and other fire objects from children.
- Check electric cords to see if they are frayed.
- Don't run cords under carpets.
- Check clothes dryers; lint can cause fire.
- Make sure you have two ways out of your house when fire occurs.
- Make sure children know how to get out of the house, stay out and wait outside for an adult.
- Make sure fire places are properly installed and vented.
- Never leave burning candles unattended.
- Make sure Christmas trees are fresh – water daily.

He discussed fire safety in kitchens and the safe operation of generators. Ron wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Chairperson Paula Mullis thanked everyone for participating and approved a motion to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:47 p.m.

Doris G. Carey, Secretary